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**La Figure de la Terre.** Les grandes opérations géodésiques. L'ancienne et la nouvelle mesure de l'arc méridien de Quito. Capitaine G. Perrier. (Revue de Géographie annuelle. Tome 11.-1908.) vi and 307 pp., Maps, Illustrations, and Tables. Librairie Ch. Delagrave, Paris, 1909.

Captain Perrier of the Service géographique de l'Armée of France, gives to geographers in this volume a comprehensive account of the measurement of arcs of the meridian in Peru, Ecuador, Sweden, Spitzbergen, the United States, Canada, South Africa and other parts of the world, and the results of these labors. The work covers the development of geodesy in the past three centuries and shows the necessity for these great geodetic operations in order to establish the bases for exact topographic mapping. The author describes in detail the methods of measuring an arc of the meridian and the modern instruments employed. The bibliography with 97 titles will be found very useful.

**Die Schwerebestimmung an der Erdoberfläche.** Prof. Dr. Joh. Bapt. Messerschmitt. viii and 158 pp., 25 Illustrations and Index. Friedrich Vieweg & Sohn, Braunschweig, 1908. Price, M. 5.

One of the best works yet written on Gravitation and Gravity Determinations. The author, who is in charge at the Magnetic Observatory at Munich, describes the principles upon which the determination of gravity depend, the methods and apparatus used in observations and the importance of the study in investigations relating to the figure of the earth. The book is No. 27 of the natural science and mathematical monographs published under the general title of "Die Wissenschaft" by Vieweg & Son.

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